



W.G.C. Kimball, Stereoview No. 10 – “Approach to the Church Family from the Avenue of Maples.” Circa 1883.

# Enfield Shaker Museum

## 2018 Spring Shaker Forum

April 20 – 22, 2018

Enfield, NH



### **About the Enfield Shaker Museum**

Nestled in a valley between Shaker Mountain and Mascoma Lake, in Enfield, New Hampshire, the Enfield Shaker site has been cherished for over 200 years. At its peak in the mid-19th century, the community was home to three "Families" of Shakers. They practiced equality of the sexes and races, celibacy, pacifism and communal ownership of property. The Shakers farmed over 3,000 acres of land, educated children in model schools and worshipped in the "Shaker Way."

**The Enfield Shaker Museum is an educational institution dedicated to interpreting and preserving the history of the Shakers of Enfield, NH.**

### **Greetings from the Education Coordinator**



I would like to welcome all of you to the 2018 Spring Shaker Forum. Since the beginning of the field of Shaker Studies in the early-twentieth century, the discipline has evolved and become reinvigorated. Every year, we learn more about these fascinating people, their way of life, and the Society that they built. From its initial development in the world of antique and manuscript collecting to the most recent cutting-edge research, the world of Shaker Studies remains vibrant.

The primary goal of this weekend is to bring together a group of researchers and enthusiasts with similar passions for the Shakers to share the latest information. Though we may not have the same research interests or visions of Shaker historiography, we all retain a belief that the Shakers can inform and inspire new ways of thinking even in the twenty-first century.

For this year's Forum, we have a full weekend of events which will include 11 presentations, a broom making workshop, and a preservation tour of the Museum. I am especially excited this year about the diversity of subject matter. I wish everyone the best and look forward to spending time with attendees at this year's Spring Shaker Forum.

Thank you.

Kyle Sandler

### **Greetings from the ESM President**

Welcome to the Enfield Shaker Museum's 2018 Spring Shaker Forum.

Whether you are a presenter or attendee, your participation allows for sharing of research, exploration of new interests, and an opportunity to engage in lively discussion.

It is the Museum's intention to provide a platform for Shaker scholars and enthusiasts to be part of a significant educational endeavor focusing on the fascinating history and culture of the Shakers. Your participation provides depth and meaning to our existence as a Museum and place of learning.



I certainly hope that you find this weekend to be informative, thought provoking and thoroughly enjoyable. I look forward to welcoming each of you personally.

Thank you.

Carolyn A. Smith, President

# At-A-Glance Schedule

## Enfield Shaker Museum

### 2018 Spring Shaker Forum

	Dining Room	Meeting Room	Gift Shop Café
<b>Friday, April 20</b>			
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm			Registration
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm		Preservation Tour – <b>Richard Dabrowski and Paul Waehler</b>	
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm		Break	
4:15 pm – 5:00 pm		Listening to that Still Small Voice: 25 Years on the Outside Looking In- <b>Sharon Koomler</b>	
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm		Welcome Reception	
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Dinner		
7:30 pm		Enfield Shaker Stereographs and the Photographers Who Published Them – <b>Carolyn Smith and Richard Dabrowski</b>	
<b>Saturday, April 21</b>			
8:00 am – 8:45 am	Breakfast		
9:00 am – 9:15 am		Welcome – <b>Kyle Sandler</b>	
9:15 am – 10:00 am		The Last Testimony of Abijah Worster (1745-1841) – <b>Roben Campbell*</b>	
10:00 am – 10:45 am		The Fur Was Flying: Shaker Coon Fur and Silk Gloves – <b>Jerry Grant</b>	
10:45 am – 11:00 am		Break	
11:00 am – 11:45 pm		Why Historians Should Examine Shaker Novels: Exposing Century-Old Misconceptions of Shaker Life– <b>Richard Marshall*</b>	
11:45 am – 12:30 am		A Signature at the Wood Lathe: Fellowship and Woodwork in the Shaker Community at Enfield, NH– <b>Rob Emlen</b>	
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch		
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm		The Shakers as Originators of Fruit and Vegetable Varieties – <b>Darryl Thompson*</b>	
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm		Break	
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm		Broom Making Presentation and Workshop – <b>Larry Antonuk</b>	
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm		Break	
4:15 pm – 5:00 pm		Rabbit Heads, Indian Maidens, and a Can of Peas: Entertainments with the Canterbury Shakers- <b>Rebecca Soules*</b>	
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm		Cocktails and Announcement of the Shaker Workshops Award for Outstanding New Scholarship – <b>Carolyn Smith</b>	
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Dinner		
7:30 pm		The Gospel Sound- <b>Mary Ann Haagen and Jane Crosthwaite</b>	
<b>Sunday, April 22</b>			
8:00 am – 8:45 am	Breakfast		
9:00 am – 9:45 am		The Apostate Stories of Hervey Elkins and Nicholas Briggs– <b>Galen Beale</b>	
9:45 am – 10:00 am		Break	
10:00 am – 10:45 am		Innovation, Ingenuity, and Insights: The Parallels of Christianity and Entrepreneurship- <b>Christine Mooney*</b>	
10:45 am – 11:15 am		Shaker Readings and Songs – <b>Mary Ann Haagen</b>	
11:15 am – 11:30 am		Closing Remarks- <b>Carolyn Smith</b>	
11:45 am – 12:00 pm			Pick up Box Lunches
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm		Walk to the Feast Ground	
11:00 am – 3:00 pm			Checkout

*\*Participants in the Shaker Workshops Competition for Outstanding New Scholarship.*

# Schedule of Events

## Enfield Shaker Museum

### 2018 Spring Shaker Forum

#### Friday, April 20

**2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Registration, *Gift Shop Café***

**3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Preservation Tour, *Richard Dabrowski and Paul Waebler***

On this tour, Richard and Paul will explain the most recent work being done as part of our *Preservation Wednesday* program.

**4:15 pm – 5:00 pm Listening to that Still Small Voice: 25 Years on the Outside Looking In, *Sharon Duane Koomler***

From an early beginning as a graduate student accessioning books in the library at the Shaker Museum at South Union to a career at the Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon, Sharon will give a retrospective on 25 years in the Shaker world.

**5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Welcome Reception, *Meeting Room***

**6:30 pm – 7:30 pm Dinner, *Dining Room***

**7:30 pm Special Presentation: Enfield, NH Shaker Stereographs (Stereoviews) and the Photographers Who Published Them, *Carolyn Smith and Richard Dabrowski***

Stereography is the art of rendering a 3-d image in the mind of the viewer by using a pair of 2-d images. Beginning about 1850, millions of paper stereographs mounted on flat cards were produced throughout the world from images taken by largely self-taught photographers. Carolyn and Dick will introduce five photographers and their work, which provides a rare view of the Enfield Shaker community in the 19th century. A comprehensive (perhaps complete) exhibit of Enfield stereographs from both public and private collections accompanies their talk.

#### Saturday, April 21

**8:00 am – 8:45 am Breakfast, *Dining Room***

**9:00am – 9:15 am Welcome *Meeting Room***

*Kyle Sandler, Museum Education Program Coordinator*

**9:15 am – 10:00am The Last Testimony of Abijah Worster (1745-1841), *Roben Campbell\****

Upon Abijah Worster's death in 1841, at the age of 95, Brother Abijah left behind a large body of recollections about the early Shakers. In this presentation, Roben will focus on two aspects of the life of Abijah Worster: an incident with the Marquis De Lafayette and his last testimony.

**10:00 am – 10:45 am The Fur Was Flying: Shaker Coon Fur and Silk Gloves, *Jerry Grant***

Deeply affected by the Panic of 1873, the Shakers at the Mount Lebanon Church Family faced serious economic challenges. In response to these difficulties, the Church Family Shakers began to expand into new industries. One of the more unusual, "Coon Fur and Silk Gloves", will be discussed by Jerry in this illustrated presentation.

**11:00 am – 11:45 pm Why Historians Should Examine Shaker Novels: Exposing Century-Old Misconceptions of Shaker Life, *Richard Marshall\****

Throughout their history, the Shakers were the subject of misinformation, negative stereotypes, and sometimes downright fiction. In this presentation, Richard will discuss the role that Shaker historians can play in dispelling many of these misunderstandings and the information that novels can provide.

**11:45 am – 12:30 pm A Signature at the Wood Lathe: Fellowship and Woodwork in the Shaker Community at Enfield, New Hampshire, *Rob Emlen***

As part of the construction of the Great Stone Dwelling, the Church Family Shakers produced many furniture pieces for their new dwelling house. To identify these pieces, Rob will discuss the many characteristics that Enfield furniture shares with the interior architectural details of the building the Shakers called “the stone house”.

**12:30 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch, *Dining Room***

**1:30 pm – 2:15 pm The Shakers as Originators of Fruit and Vegetable Varieties, *Darryl Thompson\****

One of the least known aspects of Shaker history is the development of new varieties and strains of vegetables and fruits. In this presentation, Darryl will take the audience through the development and the historical records of this element of the Shakers’ agricultural work.

**2:30 pm – 4:00 pm Broom Making Presentation and Workshop, *Larry Antonuk***

**4:15 pm – 5:00 pm Rabbit Heads, Indian Maidens, and a Can of Peas: Entertainments with the Canterbury Shakers, *Rebecca Soules\****

Despite the general decline in Shaker numbers, the population of Canterbury remained relatively stable. These population numbers combined with loosening rules and stable economics allowed the Canterbury sisters to begin to produce new “entertainments”. Rebecca will describe the various programs put on by the Canterbury sisters and their importance to the community.

**5:30 pm – 6:00 pm Cocktails and Announcement of the Shaker Workshops Award for Outstanding New Scholarship, *Carolyn Smith and Richard Dabrowski of Shaker Workshops***

**6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Dinner, *Dining Room***

**7:30 pm Special Presentation: The Gospel Sound, *Mary Ann Haagen and Jane Crosthwaite***

The Shakers heard the clarion call of the Second Coming and gathered all the trumpet imagery they could muster to express their exuberant vision. Mary Ann and Jane will offer a glimpse into the trumpeting music and art created by the Believers to proclaim Mother Ann’s Gospel.

## **Sunday, April 22**

**8:00 am – 8:45 am Breakfast, *Dining Room***

**9:00 am – 9:45 am The Apostate Stories of Hervey Elkins and Nicholas Briggs, *Galen Beale***

The accounts of Hervey Elkins of Enfield, NH and Nicholas Briggs of Canterbury, NH provide important insights into the New Hampshire Bishopric. In this talk, Galen will discuss these accounts and their significance to general Shaker studies.

**10:00 am – 10:45 am Innovation, Ingenuity, and Insights: The Parallels of Christianity and Entrepreneurship, *Christine Mooney\****

Mother Ann Lee was an entrepreneur and possessed many of the characteristics that are valued in the world of new business. In her presentation, Christine will discuss how the teachings and beliefs of the Shakers represent a convergence between the world of religion and business.

**10:45 am – 11:15 am Shaker Readings and Songs, *Mary Ann Haagen***

**11:15 am – 11:30 am Closing Remarks, *Carolyn Smith***

**11:45 am – 12:00 pm Pick up Box Lunches, *Gift Shop Café***

**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Walk to the Feast Ground, *Museum Staff***

**11:00 am – 3:00 pm Checkout, *Reception (Gift Shop)***

## 2018 Spring Shaker Forum Readers

**Kerry Hackett** has been in clinical practice as a Medical Herbalist for almost two decades. In addition, she is a doctoral candidate at the University of Central Lancashire (UK); her dissertation (at present) is entitled "Preserving the Knowledge: Botanical Treatments of the Sick in an Early to Mid-nineteenth Century Shaker Community". Kerry has published several articles on herbal medicine, presented at many conferences and in 2015, received the Faith Andrews Fellowship for the Study of Shaker Life and Material Culture from the Winterthur Museum and Library (Delaware).

**Stephen Paterwic** has been researching the Shakers since 1967. He is a frequent presenter at Shaker forums and seminars. Stephen has also written several books such as his *Historical Dictionary of the Shakers*, numerous articles in publications such as the Shaker Quarterly, and has contributed chapters to other works on the Shakers including *Inspired Innovations: A Celebration of Shaker Ingenuity*. Currently, he serves as an overseer at Hancock Shaker Village and as a trustee of Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village.

**Marc Rhorer** is the Assistant Dean of Accreditation and International Programs at Florida Atlantic University's School of Business in Boca Raton, FL. Marc received his PhD in Comparative Studies from Florida Atlantic University in 2007. His dissertation is titled "Believers in Dixie: A Cultural Geography of the Kentucky Shakers". In addition to his dissertation, Marc has also completed several other works on the two Kentucky Shaker communities. Marc is also the President of the Communal Studies Association.

## 2018 Spring Shaker Forum Key Note Speakers

**Jane Crosthwaite** is a Professor Emeritus of Religion at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts. She holds a Ph.D. from Duke University. Throughout a more than thirty-year career, Jane taught on a variety of subjects including the role of women in the history of American religion. Her Shaker research has been largely focused on the period known as the Era of Manifestations. Jane has published numerous works on Shaker history including *Millennial Praises: A Shaker Hymnal* co-edited with Christian Goodwillie.

**Richard Dabrowski** is President of Shaker Workshops in Ashburnham, Massachusetts. Since 2012, he has volunteered as coordinator of historic preservation projects at the Enfield Shaker Museum and has assisted the museum in expanding its collection of Enfield Shaker furniture and artifacts. He is a long-time collector of Shaker poplarware and author of the chapter "Fancy Goods: Poplarware" in *Inspired Innovation: A Celebration of Shaker Ingenuity* (2010). Google "shaker stereoviews" to see his growing online database of Shaker stereoviews.

**Mary Ann Haagen** is a long-time independent Shaker scholar whose research focuses on the Enfield, New Hampshire Shaker Society. She has been active in the work of the Enfield Shaker Museum since 1987 and is the founding director of the Enfield Shaker Singers. In 2012, Mary Ann compiled and edited *The Collected Writings of Henry Cummings*. Currently, she is also a visiting scholar in the Music Department at Dartmouth College.

**Carolyn Smith** has been associated with the Enfield Shaker Museum since its inception in 1986. First as its founding director, then as a volunteer, and now as President of the Board of Trustees. She and her husband, Richard Dabrowski, are avid collectors of Enfield, NH Shaker ephemera. In the past twenty years, Carolyn has put together a large collection of Enfield, NH postcards (more than 1200) and stereoviews.

## 2018 Spring Shaker Forum Presenters

**Galen Beale** has spent much of her adult life working and volunteering for both Canterbury Shaker Village and the Enfield Shaker Museum. During her time at Canterbury, Galen first worked as an herbalist which concluded with the publication of *The Earth Shall Blossom, Shaker Herbs and Gardening* in 1991. Through conversations with Shaker Eldresses

Bertha Lindsay and Gertrude Soule during those years, Galen was able to help revive the Shaker craft of poplarware. Today, Galen continues to write and publish articles on various aspects of Shaker history in the New Hampshire Bishopruc including a book on the life of Hervey Elkins.

**Roben Campbell** is an independent scholar specializing in Harvard Shaker life. She has conducted extensive research and delivered papers and talks on Shaker textiles, the demographics of Harvard, and tuberculosis as a major health problem in the village. In 2011 she received the Shaker Workshops Award for her research on burial patterns in the Harvard Shaker Cemetery, which was published in the *American Communal Societies Quarterly*. She has also been the leader of the Boston Area Shaker Study Group since 2015.

**Robert Emlen** is a Visiting Scholar in American Studies at Brown University. For over twenty years, Rob was the University Curator and Senior Lecturer in American Studies at Brown University in Providence, RI. He was also an adjunct faculty member in the History of Art and Visual Culture at the Rhode Island School of Design. Robert has published several books on Shaker History such as *Shaker Village Views* and *Picturing the Shakers in the Era of Manifestations* and many scholarly articles.

**Jerry Grant** is the current Director of Collections and Research at the Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon. Jerry has also been a Director at Hancock Shaker Village. Jerry has published several works on the Shakers including *Shaker Furniture Makers* with Douglas Allen, *Noble but Plain: The Shaker Meetinghouse at Mount Lebanon, New York*, and “Oval Box Making at Mount Lebanon, New York” in *Inspired Innovation: A Celebration of Shaker Ingenuity*.

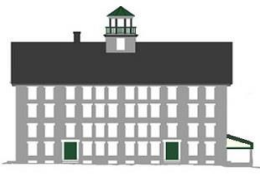
**Sharon Duane Koomler** has been a Director of Education at the Shaker Museum at South Union, a Curator at Hancock Shaker Village, and a Director at the Shaker Museum at the Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon. Sharon’s research interests have focused on the daily and spiritual lives of the Shakers. She has also published several works such as *Seen and Received: The Shakers’ Private Art* and “No Strange Gift Ever Came from God: A Discussion of Shaker Gift Drawings” in *As It Is In Heaven: The Legacy of Shaker Faith and Design*.

**Richard Marshall** holds a Ph.D. in English from Purdue University. He is currently both an Associate Professor in the Department of English and the Writing Lab Director at the University of Indianapolis. Richard has presented on the Shakers in a variety of setting including most recently at the Communal Studies Association Annual Conference in 2016. Richard’s primary scholarly interests include the Shakers in literature and history, American slave narratives, and literature about slavery.

**Christine Mooney** is an Associate Professor in the Business Department at Queensborough Community College, City University of New York. She holds a Juris Doctor from the New York Law School and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Queens College, City University of New York. Christine has presented on a variety of topics in the fields of intellectual property law, education, and entrepreneurship.

**Rebecca Soules** is the Daily Visitor and Youth Programs Manager at Canterbury Shaker Village. Rebecca received a Master of Arts in Public Humanities from Brown University. As an undergraduate, she was awarded the American Civilization Senior Thesis Prize for her work, “Being Shaker in the Twentieth Century”. She has also participated in several public history projects.

**Darryl Thompson** is one of the very few people in the United States who have both lived among the Shakers and engaged in academic study of Shaker history, culture, and religion. Darryl lived with the Canterbury Shakers and attended the University of New Hampshire at Durham where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in American history. Articles about the Shakers written by Darryl have appeared in various publications, several books, and even as liner notes for several CDs of Shaker music.



## ENFIELD SHAKER MUSEUM

447 NH Route 4A

Enfield, NH 03748

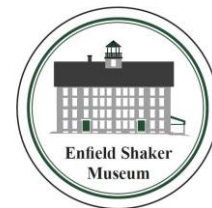
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## 2019 Spring Shaker Forum

April 19 – 21, 2019

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